

















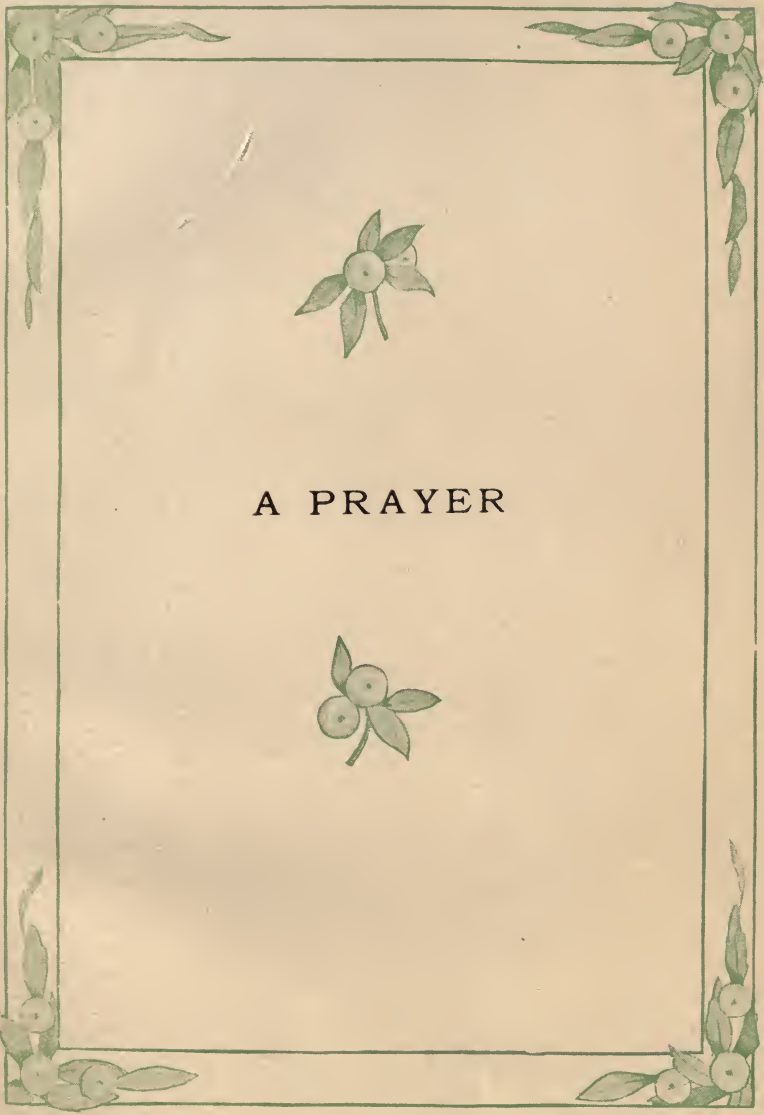








A PRAYER







# A PRAYER

AND OTHER SELECTIONS

BY

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WITH BORDER DECORATIONS BY

AGNES M. WATSON



NEW YORK

DODGE PUBLISHING COMPANY

220 EAST 23D STREET



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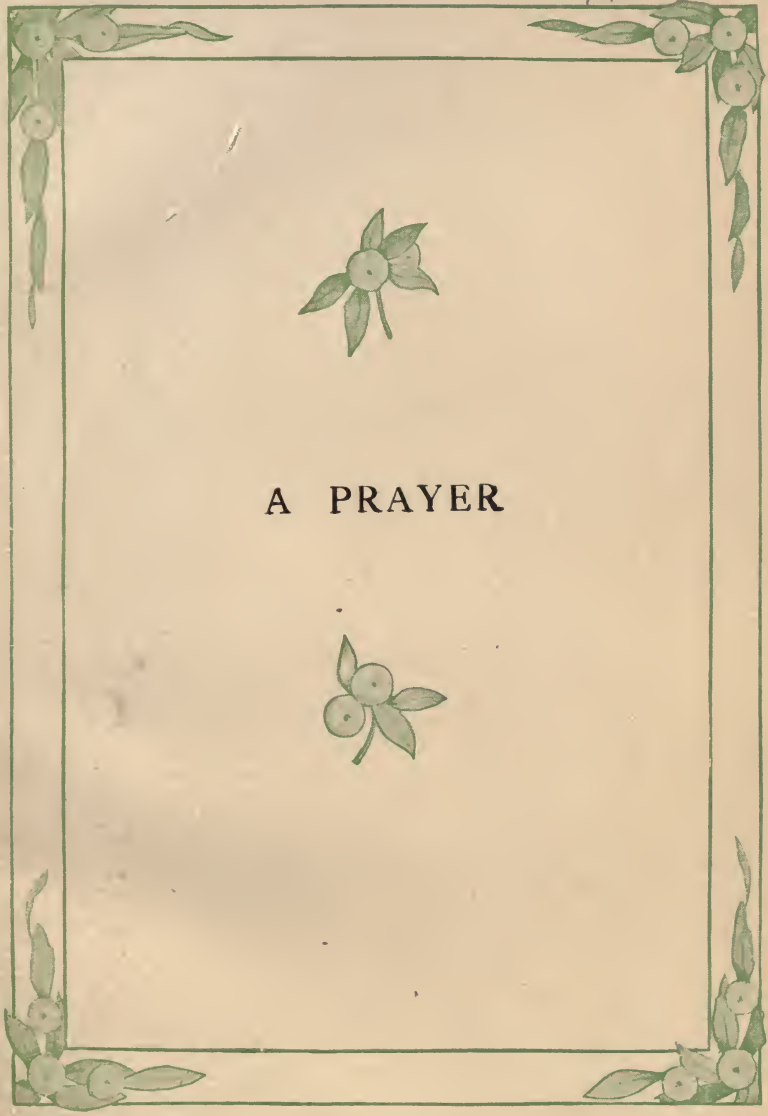
Mary J. McDonald



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A PRAYER



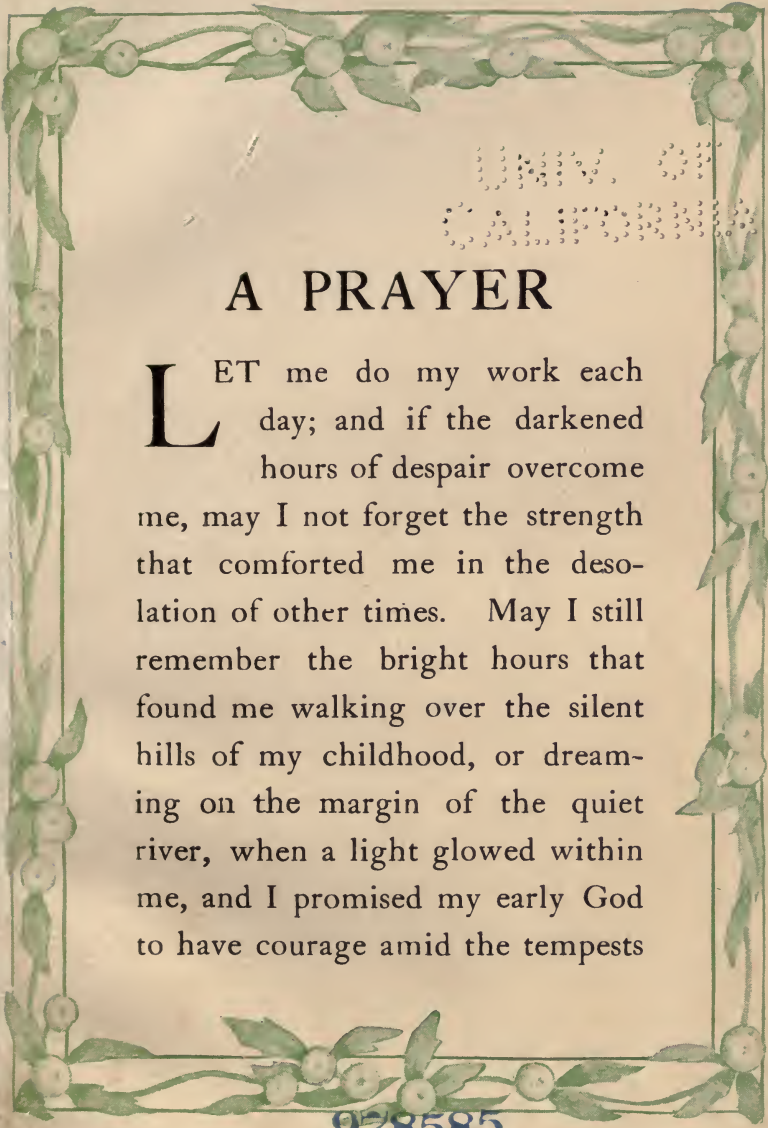




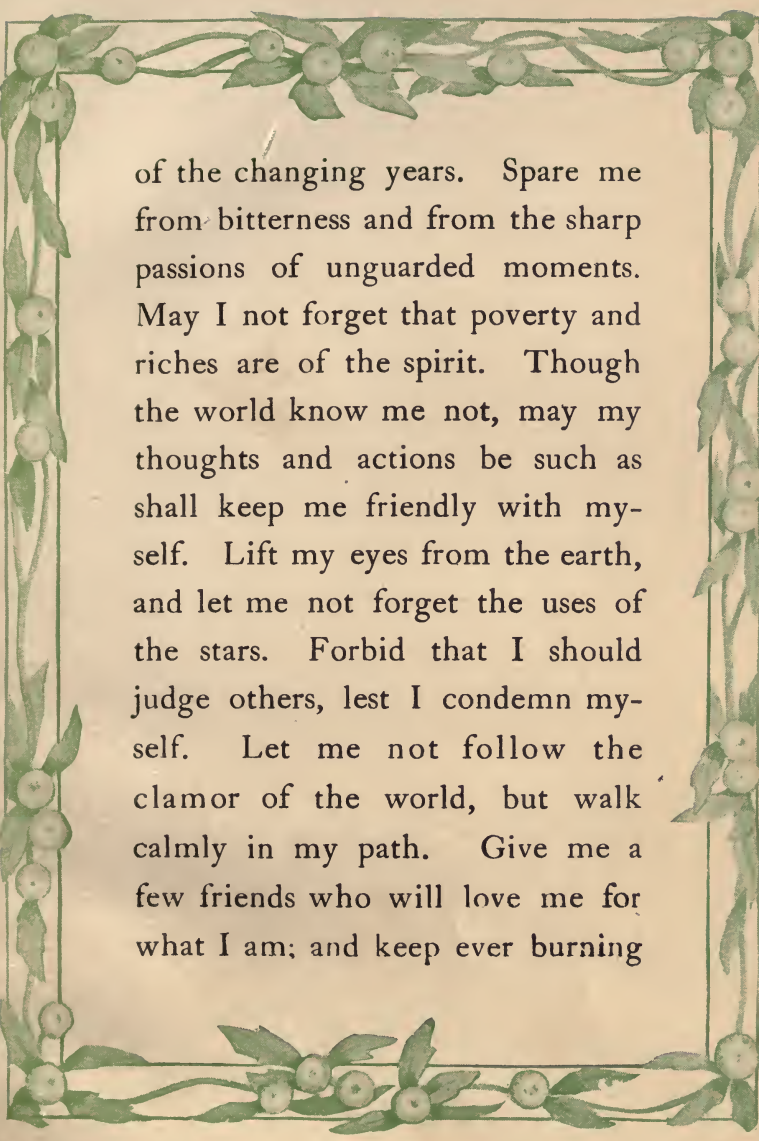


## A PRAYER

**L**ET me do my work each day; and if the darkened hours of despair overcome me, may I not forget the strength that comforted me in the desolation of other times. May I still remember the bright hours that found me walking over the silent hills of my childhood, or dreaming on the margin of the quiet river, when a light glowed within me, and I promised my early God to have courage amid the tempests

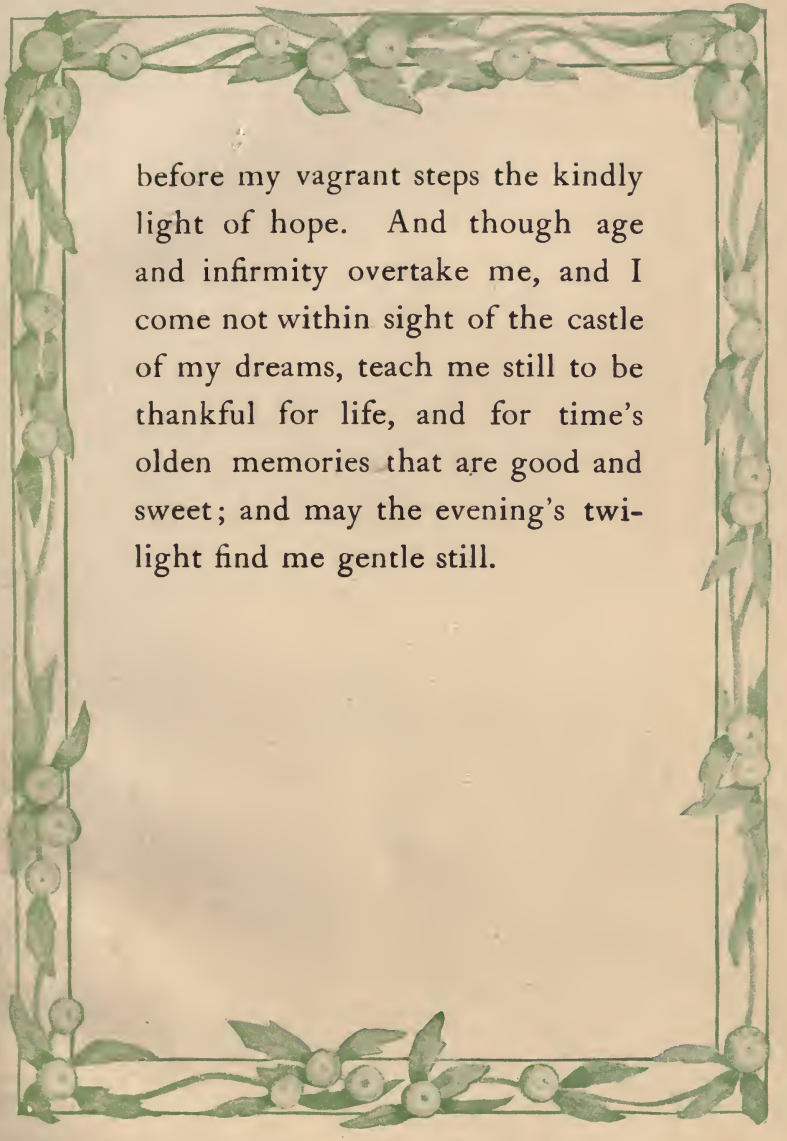




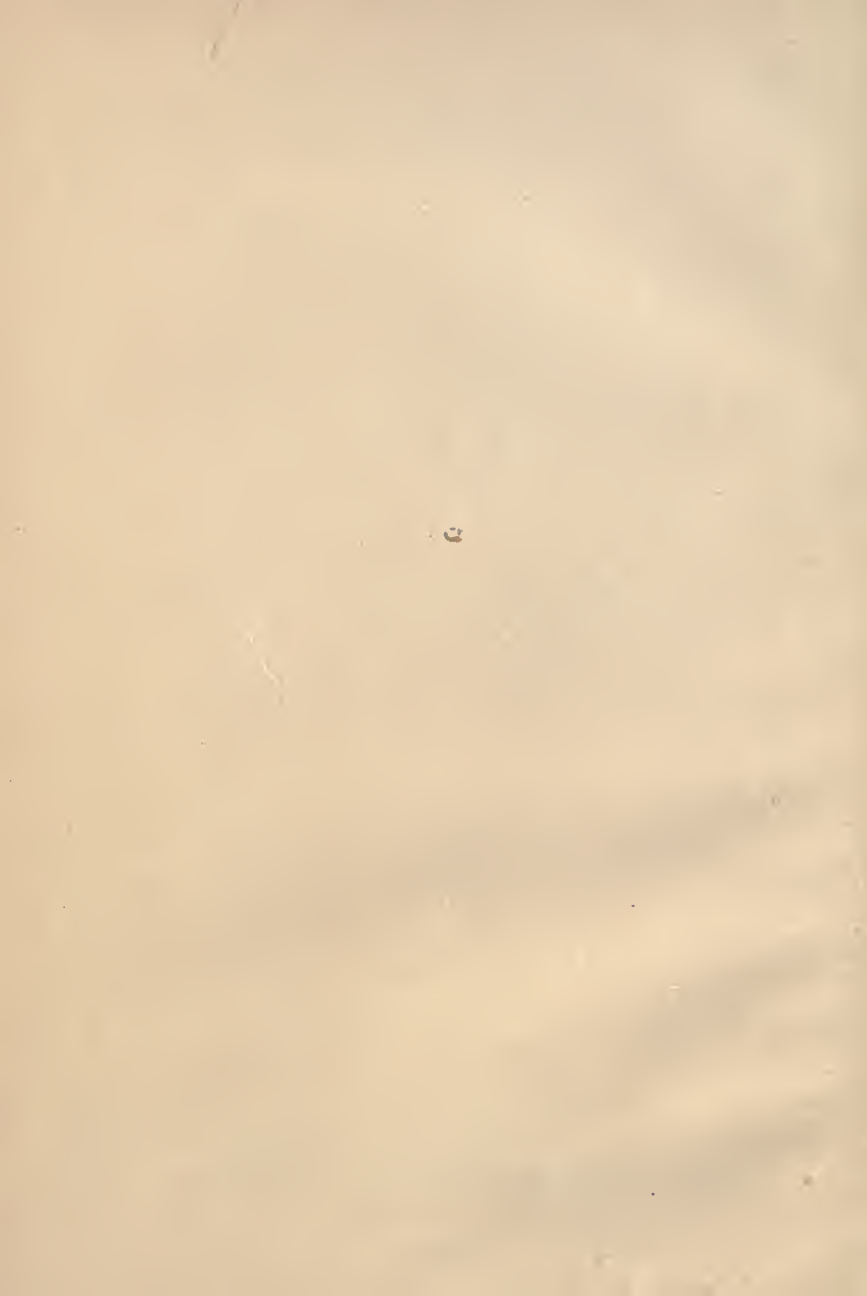


of the changing years. Spare me from bitterness and from the sharp passions of unguarded moments. May I not forget that poverty and riches are of the spirit. Though the world know me not, may my thoughts and actions be such as shall keep me friendly with myself. Lift my eyes from the earth, and let me not forget the uses of the stars. Forbid that I should judge others, lest I condemn myself. Let me not follow the clamor of the world, but walk calmly in my path. Give me a few friends who will love me for what I am; and keep ever burning



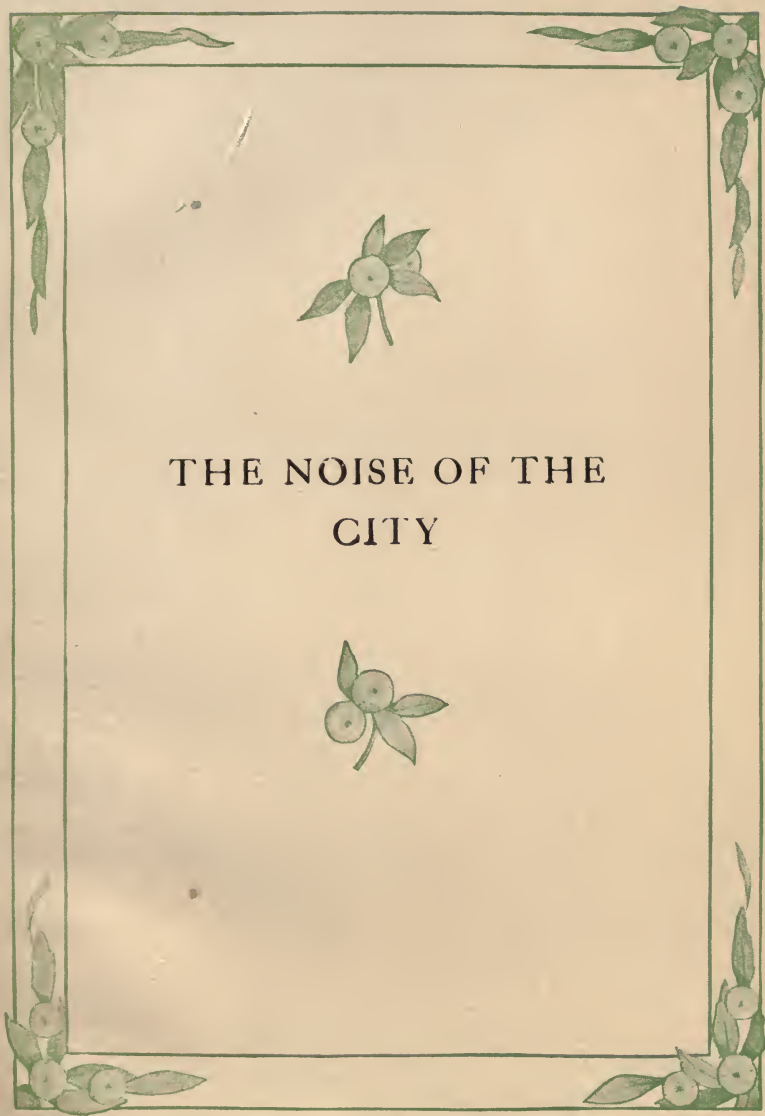


before my vagrant steps the kindly  
light of hope. And though age  
and infirmity overtake me, and I  
come not within sight of the castle  
of my dreams, teach me still to be  
thankful for life, and for time's  
olden memories that are good and  
sweet; and may the evening's twi-  
light find me gentle still.



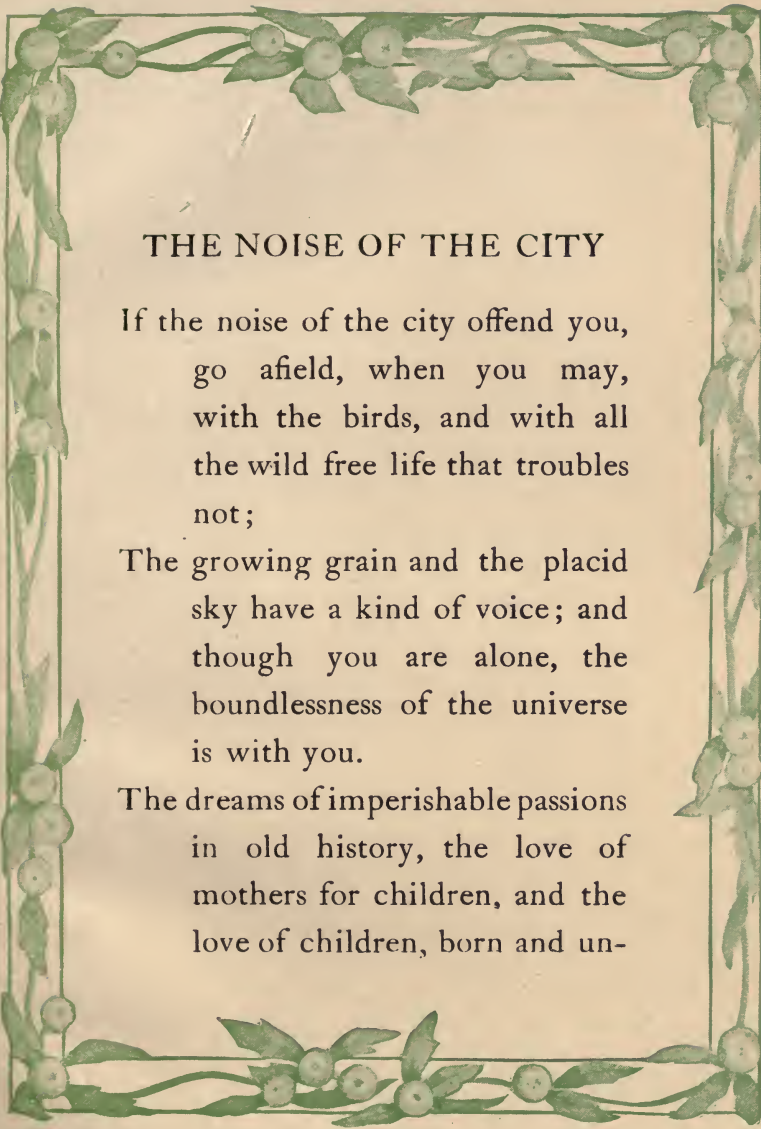


THE NOISE OF THE  
CITY









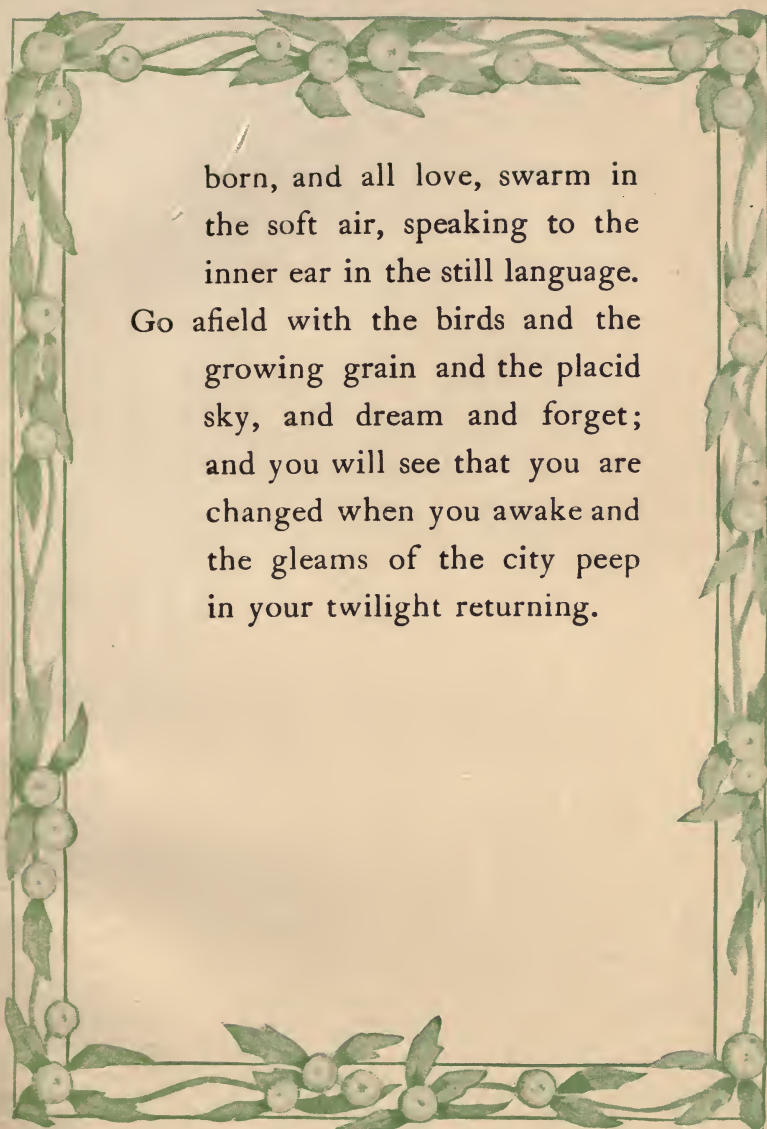
## THE NOISE OF THE CITY

If the noise of the city offend you,  
go afield, when you may,  
with the birds, and with all  
the wild free life that troubles  
not;

The growing grain and the placid  
sky have a kind of voice; and  
though you are alone, the  
boundlessness of the universe  
is with you.

The dreams of imperishable passions  
in old history, the love of  
mothers for children, and the  
love of children, born and un-



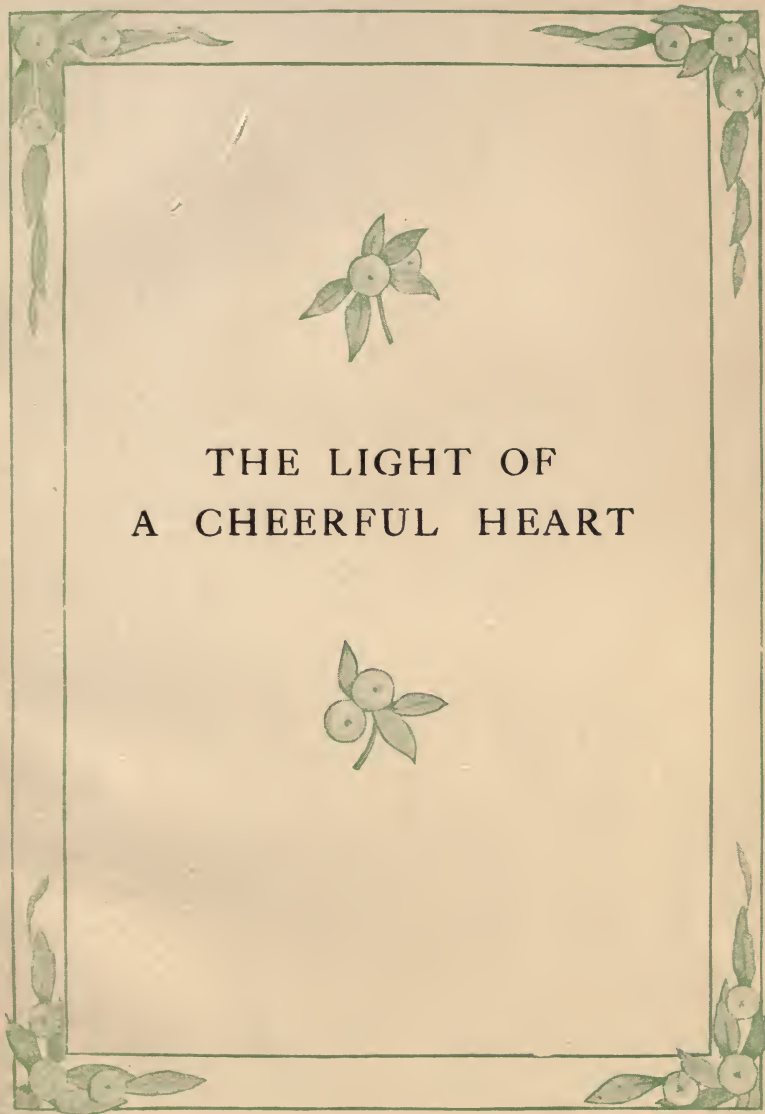


born, and all love, swarm in  
the soft air, speaking to the  
inner ear in the still language.  
Go afield with the birds and the  
growing grain and the placid  
sky, and dream and forget;  
and you will see that you are  
changed when you awake and  
the gleams of the city peep  
in your twilight returning.

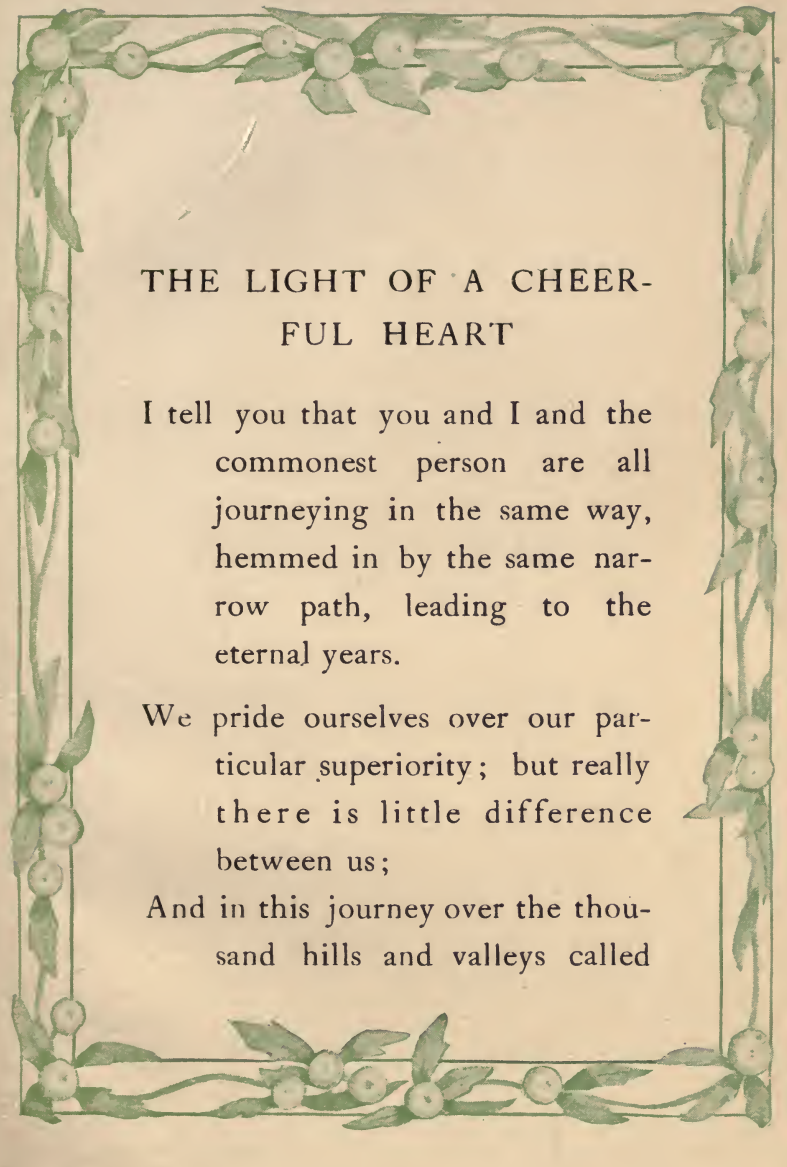




THE LIGHT OF  
A CHEERFUL HEART







## THE LIGHT OF A CHEER- FUL HEART

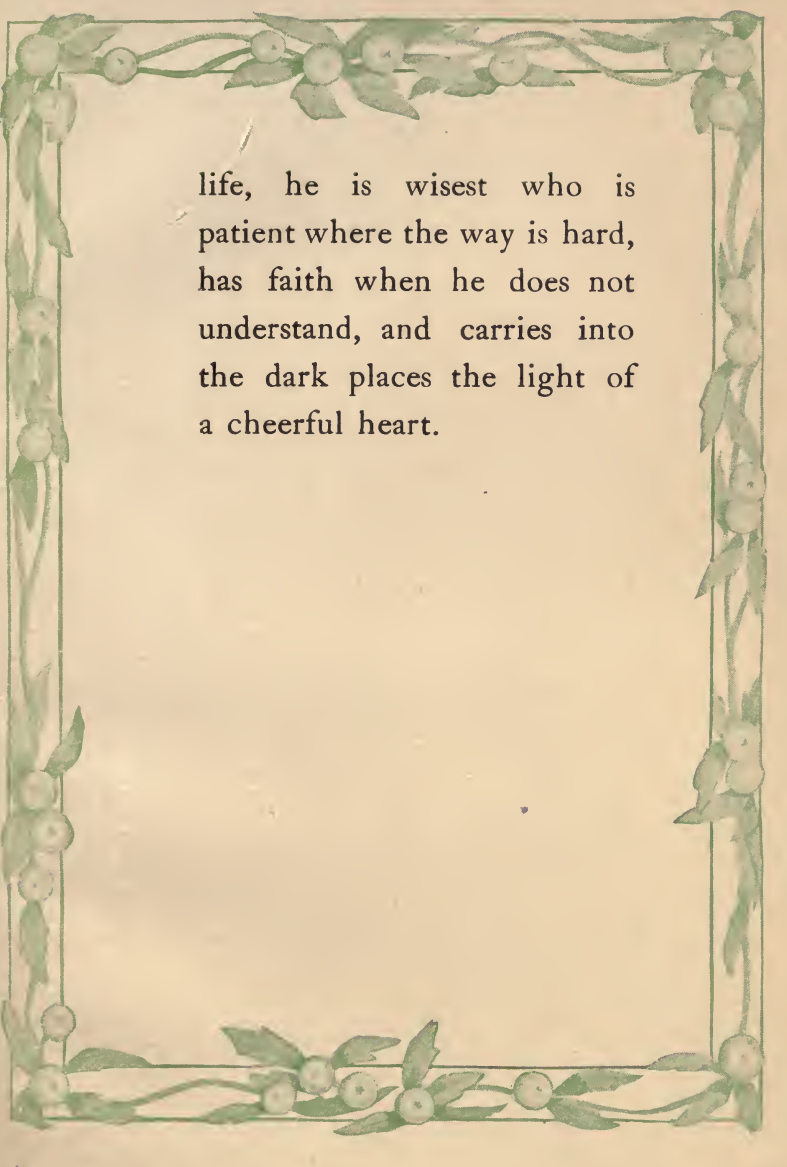
I tell you that you and I and the  
commonest person are all  
journeying in the same way,  
hemmed in by the same nar-  
row path, leading to the  
eternal years.

We pride ourselves over our par-  
ticular superiority; but really  
there is little difference  
between us;

And in this journey over the thou-  
sand hills and valleys called





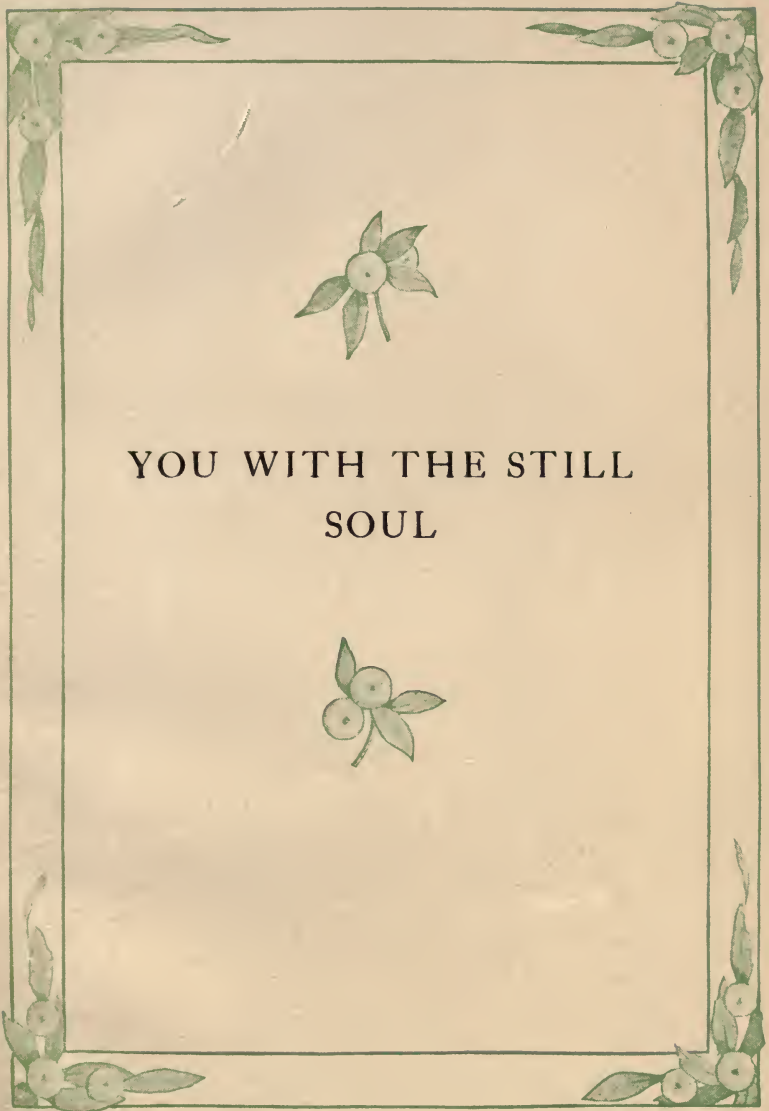


life, he is wisest who is  
patient where the way is hard,  
has faith when he does not  
understand, and carries into  
the dark places the light of  
a cheerful heart.

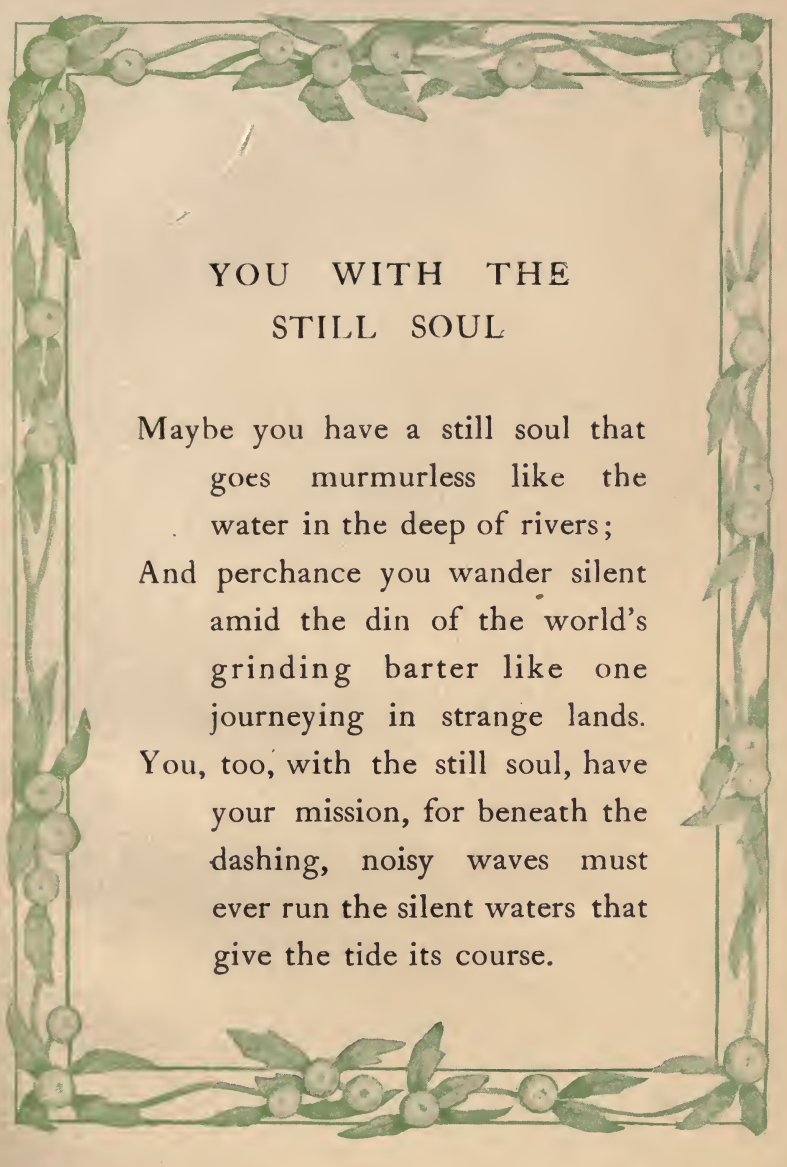




YOU WITH THE STILL  
SOUL







YOU WITH THE  
STILL SOUL

Maybe you have a still soul that  
goes murmurless like the  
water in the deep of rivers;

And perchance you wander silent  
amid the din of the world's  
grinding barter like one  
journeying in strange lands.

You, too, with the still soul, have  
your mission, for beneath the  
dashing, noisy waves must  
ever run the silent waters that  
give the tide its course.





KINDNESS









## KINDNESS

Who lives  
For kindness gives  
A light to darkened lands;  
And tho no image of him stands  
In public place, he is a martyr  
Amid piratic schemes of barter;  
And triumphs tho he die unwept:  
His light may once have crept  
Through hearts of stone  
And shone.

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